GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3419
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2006
CENSUS ON LAKES
Appadurai Shri M.

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any census has been conducted or proposed to be conducted on the number of existing lakes in rural areas in the Country;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to assist State Governments to deepen the existing lakes and dig new lakes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ)

(a) Census of number of lakes has not been conducted. However, under Minor Irrigation Census conducted by states under centrally sponsored plan scheme of Ministry of Water Resources, the information on minor irrigation sources namely Tanks and Storages, Ponds and Bundhies etc. have been collected for the years 1986-87, 1993-94 and 2000-01.

(b) & (c) The scheme on 'National project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of water bodies directly linked to Agriculture' in Ministry of Water Resources has been approved in January 2005 with total outlay of Rs. 300 crores for remaining period of Tenth Five Year Plan. The aim and objective of the scheme is to restore and augment storage capacity of the water bodies and to recover and extend their lost irrigation potential. Under the scheme, projects in one or two districts each in the states are taken up for restoration of water bodies having original irrigation command area of 40 hectare to 2000 hectares. Central assistance is given to State Governments in the ratio of 75:25. Ministry of Water Resources has approved 24 District projects of 14 States namely Andhra Pradesh, Chhattishgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orrisa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Gujarat, Kerala and Maharashtra. The details of the approved projects are at Annex.-I.